

II. Amendment to the Specification:

On page 3, please replace the paragraph at lines 8-10 with the following paragraph:

Still further, it is an object of the invention to provide a method of the kind referred to which may be ~~practices~~ practiced in hand-held devices as well as in document testing and money processing machines.

Please replace the paragraph at page 4 line 22 through page 5 line 13 with the following paragraph:

A further improvement of the authenticity check is derived from testing the electrical conductivity in combination with other authenticity characteristics of an optico-diffractive layer or hologram. By incorporating additional authenticity characteristics in non-metallized segments of discontinuous metallization layers, the characteristics may be tested substantially at the same time as the electrical conductivity. Such additional authenticity characteristics may also be incorporated in partially metallized layers or in zones of metallized layers provided in different planes. In the case of such a compound hologram, appropriate circuitry ~~would~~ combines the signal derived from measuring the electrical conductivity with the signal representative of the other authenticity characteristic, and delivers an output signal representative of the hologram. The additional authenticity characteristics may be fluorescent, phosphorescent or light absorbing or transmitting properties, or they may differ from their surroundings by magnetic properties. Hence, the input of the evaluation circuitry may, in addition to the conductivity sensor, be derived from optical and/or magnetic sensors. In order to reduce detection and measurement errors the sensors are preferably mounted closely adjacent each other and in defined positions on a single support to minimize spaces between the sensors. In order further to reduce error signals, the sensor support is mounted in close proximity of the evaluation circuitry. The entire testing device is preferably mounted within a document processing machine, for instance a bank note counting machine,

thereby eliminating the need for additional feed or transport devices.

On page 7, please replace the paragraph at lines 1-10 with the following paragraph:

Fig. 1 schematically depicts the arrangement of the testing device 4 within the feed path of a document processing machine such as, for example, a bank note counting machine. The machine is provided with an intake roller 1 for withdrawing individual documents from a feed tray of the machine, a plurality of transport rollers 2 imparting movement to documents within the machine, a document guide 3 and a testing device 4. The testing device 4 consists of a plurality of electrodes and sensors of the kind described *supra* which are mounted on a common support and which generate signals in response to different characteristics or parameters of a hologram for evaluation by evaluation circuitry (not shown).

On page 7, please replace the paragraph at lines 20-25 with the following paragraph:

While as shown the apparatus provides for relative movement between the document and the sensors in one direction only, it will be appreciated that it is within the ambit of the present invention to bring about relative movement in orthogonal direction. Such orthogonal movement ~~being~~ is of particular advantage in connection with the examination of holograms composed of a plurality of concentrically or eccentrically arranged annular segments.